

Remarks:

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1 and 3-13 remain in the application. Claims 1 and 8 have been amended.

In item 3 on pages 2-3 of the Office action, claims 1 and 8 have been rejected as being anticipated by Gierut (US Pat. No. 6,122,161) under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

The rejection has been noted and claims 1 and 8 have been amended in an effort to even more clearly define the invention of the instant application. Support for the changes is found on page 7, lines 2-4 of the specification.

Before discussing the prior art in detail, it is believed that a brief review of the invention as claimed, would be helpful.

Claim 1 calls for, inter alia:

a first printed circuit board having first defined dimensions corresponding to a first standard, and having a first portion of a plug connector, said first printed circuit board extending in a given plane, said first printed circuit board being a main board of a data processing device and including a CPU, memory components and slots. (Emphasis added.)

Claim 8 calls for, inter alia:

a first printed circuit board having dimensions corresponding to a first dimension standard, said first printed circuit board substantially extending in a given plane, said first printed circuit board being a main board of a data processing device and including a CPU, memory components and slots. (Emphasis added.)

According to amended claims 1 and 8 of the instant application, the first printed circuit board is a main board, which includes a CPU, memory components and slots. In contrast, in Gierut, these components are distributed on the board 18 and the modules 1, 2, and 3. The text passage in column 2, lines 54 to 61 of Gierut, as cited by the Examiner, indicates that the entire assembly has a function which corresponds to a main board, while the modules themselves only fulfill partial functions.

Clearly, Gierut does not show "a first printed circuit board having first defined dimensions corresponding to a first standard, and having a first portion of a plug connector, said first printed circuit board extending in a given plane, said first printed circuit board being a main board of a data processing device and including a CPU, memory components and slots", as recited in claim 1, and "a first printed circuit board having dimensions corresponding to a first dimension standard, said first printed circuit board substantially extending in a given plane, said first printed circuit board being a main board of a data processing device and including a CPU, memory components and slots", as recited in claim 8 of

the instant application. Claims 1 and 8 are, therefore, believed to be patentable over Gierut.

In item 5 on page 4 of the Office action, claims 3-7 and 9-13 have been rejected as being obvious over Gierut in view of Leman (U.S. Pat. No. 6,046,912) under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

As discussed above, claims 1 and 8 are believed to be patentable over the art. Since claims 3-7 and 9-13 are ultimately dependent on claims 1 or 8, they are believed to be patentable as well.

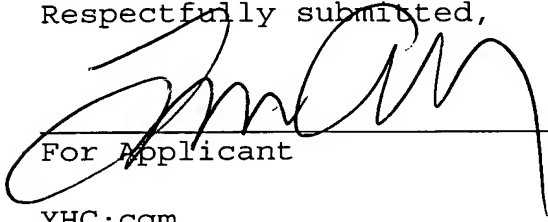
In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1 and 3-13 are solicited.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel would appreciate a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out. In the alternative, the entry of the amendment is requested as it is believed to place the application in better condition for appeal, without requiring extension of the field of search.

If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made. Please charge any fees which

might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the
Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,



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April 14, 2003

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Marked-Up Version of the Amended Claims:

Claim 1 (twice amended). A printed circuit board configuration, comprising:

a first printed circuit board having first defined dimensions corresponding to a first standard, and having a first portion of a plug connector, said first printed circuit board extending in a given plane [and], said first printed circuit board being a main board of a data processing device and including a CPU, memory components and slots;

a second printed circuit board having a second portion of said plug connector, said second printed circuit board connectable to said first printed circuit board through said plug connector to form a connected configuration;

said first and second printed circuit boards both extending in said given plane when connected in said connected configuration; and

said second printed circuit board having dimensions such that said connected configuration has second defined dimensions corresponding to a second standard.

Claim 8 (twice amended). A printed circuit board assembly, comprising:

a first printed circuit board having dimensions corresponding to a first dimension standard, said first printed circuit board substantially extending in a given plane [and], said first printed circuit board being a main board of a data processing device and including a CPU, memory components and slots;

a second printed circuit board removeably connected to said first printed circuit board;

said first and second printed circuit boards:

forming a connected configuration when said second printed circuit board is connected to said first printed circuit board; and

both extending in said given plane when connected in said connected configuration; and

said second printed circuit board being dimensioned to have said connected configuration correspond to a second dimension standard.